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**Robotics — Safety design for
industrial robot systems —**

**Part 2:
Manual load/unload stations**

*Robotique — Conception de sécurité pour les systèmes de robots
industriels —*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html. (standards.iteh.ai)

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 299, *Robotics*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 20218 series can be found on the ISO website.

This corrected version of ISO/TR 20218-2:2017 corrects the title of the document.

Introduction

The objective of a manual load/unload station is to allow an operator to interface directly with an industrial robot system, e.g. feed/remove material into and out of a robot cell. The layout of the robot cell is designed to provide a work area that is free of hazards and to lessen the motivation to circumvent or defeat the designed safeguarding.

This document supplements the requirements for industrial robot system safety specified in ISO 10218-2:2011, 5.10.6. It provides additional guidance for manual load/unload stations that are lower than 1 400 mm, to permit the work to be performed in an ergonomic manner while maintaining safety and providing guidance for an alternative method of impeding access to the robot cell. ISO 14738, ISO 6385 and ISO 10218-2:2011, Annex A, provide further information on potential ergonomic hazards

NOTE ISO 10218-2:2011, 5.10.6, specifies that the minimum height of a perimeter guard (distance guard) needs to be 1 400 mm. In cases where the results of the risk assessment determine that the guard cannot meet the height of 1 400 mm or more because of the design of a manual load/unload station, this document provides an alternative design which offers the same level of operator protection according to ISO 10218-2:2011.

Implementing ISO 10218-2 involves carrying out a comprehensive risk assessment, which is used to identify all hazards associated with the manual load/unload process. This document provides guidance on mitigation of the risks to the operator. The risk assessment needs to take account of foreseeable misuse, with mitigation provided.

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Robotics — Safety design for industrial robot systems —

Part 2: Manual load/unload stations

1 Scope

This document is applicable to robot systems for manual load/unload applications in which a hazard zone is safeguarded by preventing access to it. For this type of application, it is important to consider the need for both access restrictions to hazard zones and for ergonomically suitable work places.

This document supplements ISO 10218-2:2011 and provides additional information and guidance on reducing the risk of intrusion into the hazard zones in the design and safeguarding of manual load/unload installations.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 10218-1:2011, *Robots and robotic devices — Safety requirements for industrial robots — Part 1: Robots*

ISO 10218-2:2011, *Robots and robotic devices — Safety requirements for industrial robots — Part 2: Robot systems and integration*

ISO 12100, *Safety of machinery — General principles for design — Risk assessment and risk reduction*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 10218-1, ISO 10218-2 and ISO 12100, and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

impeding device

any physical obstacle (low barrier, rail, fixture, etc.) which, without totally preventing access to a hazard zone, reduces the probability of access to this zone by offering an obstruction to free access

[SOURCE: ISO 12100:2010, 3.29]

3.2

manual load/unload station

part of the robot system designed for the direct manual intervention for the placement and removal of parts or workpieces for processing by the robot system

3.3 operator

person or persons given the task of installing, using, adjusting, maintaining, cleaning, repairing or transporting machinery

Note 1 to entry: This definition is consistent with the meaning and use as presented in ISO 10218-1, ISO 10218-2 and ISO/TS 15066.

[SOURCE: ISO 11161:2007, 3.14 modified — Note 1 to entry has been added.]

4 Risk assessment

Guidance on risk assessment is provided in ISO 12100 and ISO 10218-2. The main hazards associated with manual load/unload stations are the robot system hazards listed in ISO 10218-2:2011, Annex A. As manual load/unload stations bring the operator particularly close to these hazards, special consideration needs to be given to safeguarding.

The risk assessment for manual load/unload stations addresses the following:

- a) possibility of unintentional access to the safeguarded space inside the robot cell;
- b) possibility of intentional access to the safeguarded space inside the robot cell (e.g. maintenance or other manual intervention);
- c) likelihood of restart of the robot system occurring while an operator is within the safeguarded space (e.g. if another person outside the robot cell restarts the system without being aware that an operator is inside);
- d) normal operation with an operator in the manual load/unload station area.

5 Safety design for manual load/unload stations

5.1 General

Manual load/unload stations require operator interaction with the robot system in the same area, but not simultaneously. ISO 10218-2:2011, 5.11 and ISO/TS 15066 apply if it is a collaborative application. There are two main concerns:

- a) safeguarding the operator from hazards introduced by the robot and the robot system;
- b) preventing access to hazard zones beyond the manual load/unload station.

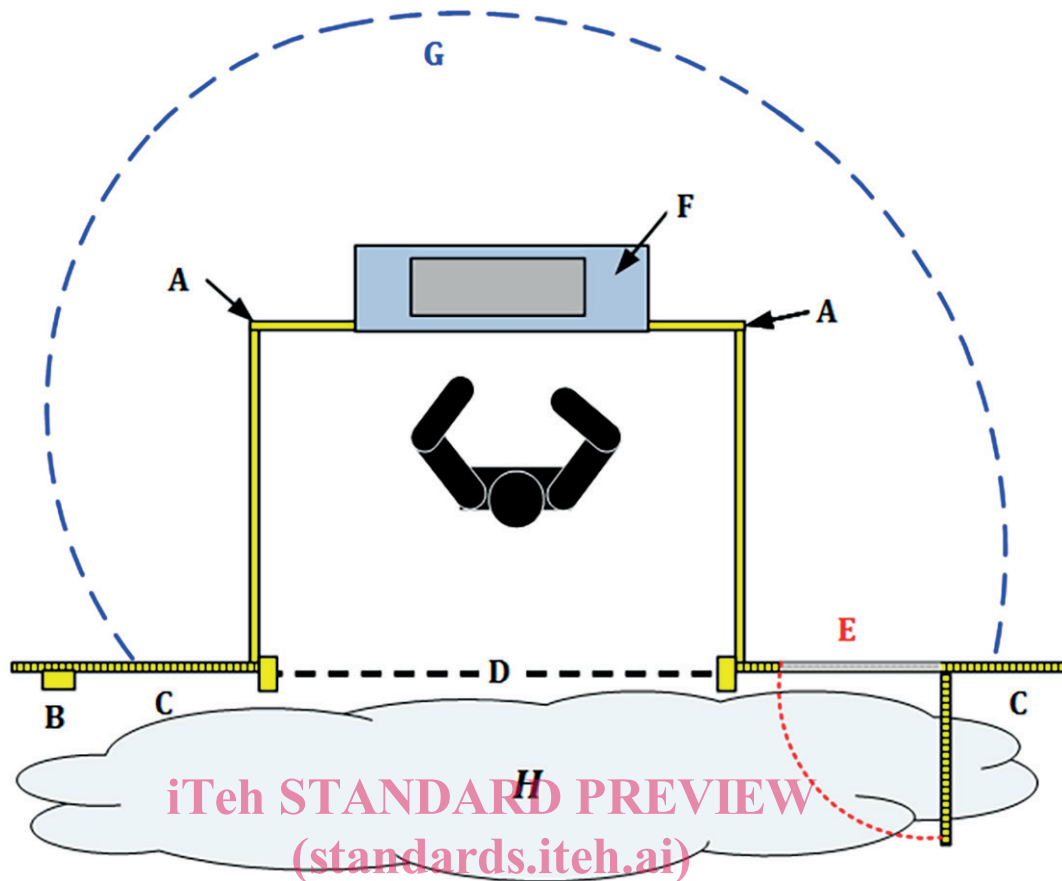
The dimensioning of safeguards and protective structures against access to hazardous areas is described in ISO 14120 and ISO 13857. To minimize ergonomic risks, manual load/unload stations can be lower than 1 400 mm. ISO 13857 states that protective structures lower than 1 400 mm should not be used without additional protective measures.

Continuous presence sensing can be used as a measure to prevent either or both of the following:

- unexpected start-up;
- contact between the operator and robot system by keeping them in separate zones.

NOTE An example of ergonomic risk is handling heavy or large workpieces during manual load/unload operations. Inadequate design of the task, machine or system could lead to increased ergonomic risk factors to the worker. Further information regarding ergonomic risk factors is given in ISO 6385, ISO 14738 and ISO 10218-2:2011, Table A.1, item 8 (ergonomic hazards).

An example layout of a manual load/unload station is illustrated in [Figure 1](#).

**Key**

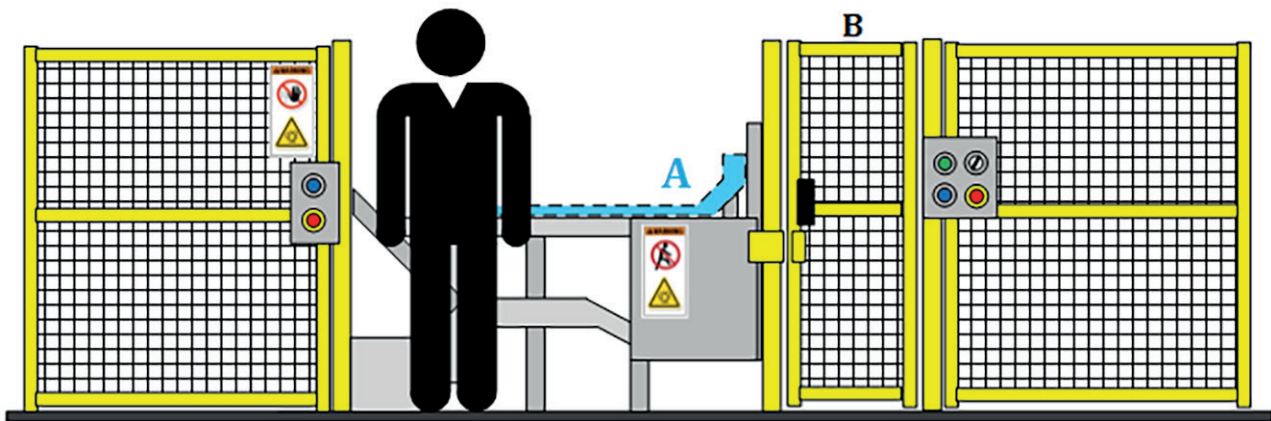
- A guard
 B reset
 C perimeter guard
 D protective device (sensitive protective equipment) or interlocked guard
 E maintenance access (shown as interlocked guard)
 F area where manual load/unload occurs
 G hazard zone within the safeguarded space
 H area outside the safeguarded space (non-hazardous area)

NOTE Surrounding safeguarding not shown for simplicity of illustration.

Figure 1 — Example layout of a manual load/unload station using a reset interlock

5.2 Typical design

ISO 10218-2:2011, 5.5.2, specifies requirements for means for the safe access of the operator into the robot system or robot cell. These means of access should be near the manual load/unload stations, as shown in [Figure 2](#).



Key

- A workplace
- B interlocked guard

NOTE Surrounding safeguarding is not shown, for simplicity of illustration.

Figure 2 — Interlocked guard allowing access to the robot cell

NOTE [Annex A](#) and in ISO 13857 provide guidance on preventing access through an opening in the fixture(s) of a manual load/unload station.

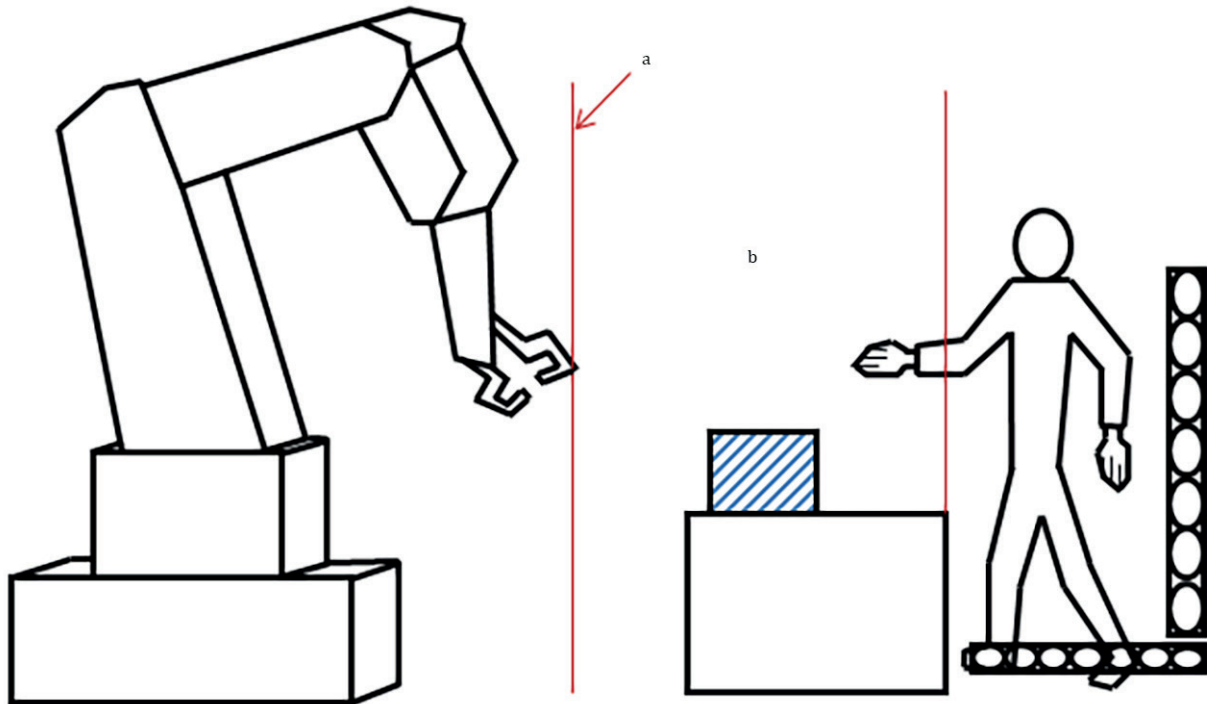
Ergonomic risk factors and robot system hazards are considered, taking into consideration the guiding principles outlined in this subclause.

Safeguarding against hazards that the worker could reach from the manual load/unload station is ensured by means of guards according to ISO 14120, with adequate safety distances according to ISO 13857:2008, Table 2. The robot system is prevented from violating the safety distance by non-mechanical limiting devices [e.g. safety-rated axis limiting, electro-sensitive protective equipment (ESPE)] according to ISO 10218-2:2011, 5.4. This means that the integrator needs to take account of the robot system stopping distance when establishing the dynamic restricted space of the robot system.

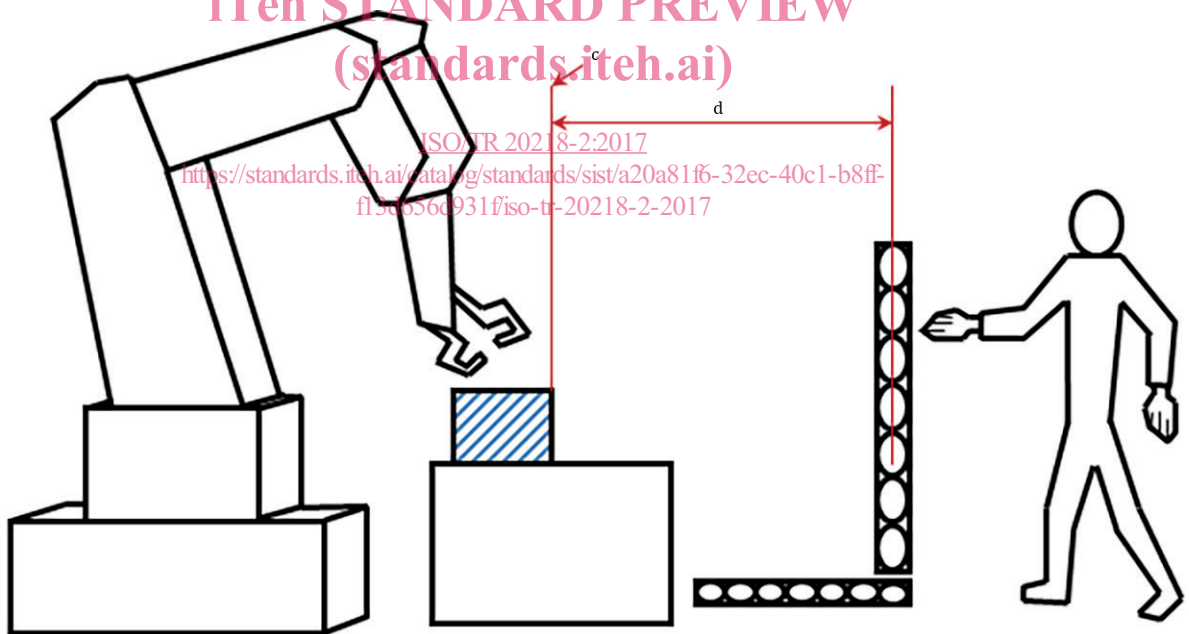
NOTE The initial robot system stopping distance can be determined by simulation, but is later verified and validated on the actual installation.

Safeguarding against hazards that the worker could reach while standing outside the manual load/unload station is accomplished by sensitive protective equipment (SPE) and one or more interlocking guards, installed according to ISO 14119, ISO 14120 and ISO 13855.

See [Figure 3](#).



a) Scenario 1: Operator working in manual load/unload station with robot system approaching



b) Scenario 2: Robot working in manual load/unload area with operator approaching

Key

- a Robot system “dynamic” zone limit, e.g. safety-rated soft limit, ESPE.
- b Safe distance when fixture acts as protective structure.
- c Robot system restricted space.
- d Safe distance according to ISO 13855.

NOTE Surrounding safeguarding not shown for simplicity of illustration.

Figure 3 — Example showing safe distances under two scenarios